



GREAT SHAKE-UP IN TEBEAU'S NINE.

Aquisition of the Three Baltimore Stars Makes It Necessary.

LOOKS LIKE PENNANT WINNER.

Young Players Are Frightened—Many of Them Will Be Disposed Of—Some Fast Men to First Base.

BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.
Memphis, Tenn., March 11.—Naturally enough, the incoming McGraw deal was the entire topic of conversation among members of the St. Louis club yesterday.

As the entire crowd with Tels in it composed of youngsters and old men whose tenure of office is more or less seriously affected by the deal, it cannot be said that it was rabid with any great joy. The pitchers are glad, for they see another work with a great team. The young-some see nothing in sight for them but minor league return interviews.

The only prominent man affected is Dave Cross, with McGraw playing third, Dave will have to go, but it is not likely that he will have to travel beyond the other corner of the diamond. Though McGraw has been secured, it is admitted that he is not the hitter by any means that Cross is. Dave has shown himself a specialist in any position, bar short. Even should McGraw send him to the first base, he will be with the team, for he can play any position outside of the box. He is a first-class catcher, a first-class third baseman, good at second or first, or in the field.

Mr. Tebeau refuses to say who will play any position, urging that he does not know, and probably he does not. But it may be presumed that Cross will play first unless McGraw shows up much his superior. In that case Dave will fill utility roles.

The Catchers.

Tebeau has five catchers. He will hardly use more than two, who will without doubt be O'Connor, Robinson and Cross. The first two are beyond question the best catchers in the country, Potts alone being in their class.

Since Brown died, Cross leads all the young catchers a mile. Indeed, it is to be truly said that St. Louis has three of the best catchers in the country. It may be that Tebeau will bring in Bud Schreick, having an eye to the fact that O'Connor and Robinson are not any longer kids; that Robbie is inclined to fat, and that Cross is more or less strong. Both Brown and Schreick are good young catchers indeed.

The infield has already been foreseen—Cross first, Kehler second, Bothwell short, and McGraw third, McGraw and Kehler hit close to .400; Wallace and Cross around .300. Joe Quinn probably will be kept for utility roles, in case Cross plays first.

Tebeau, for his first year, has chosen—Cross, Wallace, Quinn and McGraw, and four second basemen in Quinn, Kehler, Krueger and Childs; three shortstops in Lockhead, Sheehan and Wallace; three first basemen in Cross, McLean and Dillier, six catchers in Cross, O'Connor, Robinson, Bothwell, Schreick and others. Truly a bunch of talent.

The Outfield.

But the outfield vessels even the infield, Tebeau is the mighty Burkett, with his .30 to 32 years after, Helderick hit about .28 last year, and those do better this season. Tebeau is a .300 man, and Dillier is a .300 hitter.

Great hitters as they are, not any of them compares with Harry Dunn as a home run batter, with Dave trading hitting center. It is doubtful that the big belling boughs can hit the ball as center fielders, though they are all "smash" batters. It looks like Helderick will have to play the middle field.

The California, Dillier, must not be used as it is. He is a stickler for trim, just as he is for his clothes, and much more exacting than his wife, but he is not the man to expect. To his credit, he has not the level head of a general, nor the wise, considerate fellow that may win a seat on the bench. It will be a wonderful tact to have him as manager, but Helderick, Dillier, etc., etc., etc., and Dillier are very fast to rise from the mud, and will be forced to immediately double them, having no drive, but the mud is half-burned.

As far as base running goes, the players, whom McGraw, Helderick and Dillier, are among the six best base runners in the League, come in. The only one to be expected to learn, stand and start right again is Dillier, a man without a weak arm or a weak leg. Bothwell, Robinson and Dillier are famous for their speed, and Dillier, who knows all the politics, is a prima donna. He has the greatest finishing crew in the country, and, for no man of the Pittsburgh crew, not even the manager, can him and First Baseman Clarkes be equalled as what among able players.

The Pitchers.

As far as the pitching staff is concerned, it will stand as it stands. The new men helped, but what's the use of too much of a good thing? Young, Powell and Cappy look like the leaders now, with Jones in for his last, I think. Suddifit stands high with Tels, a good man, but Kneller, Harper, McLean and others will be tried out and one man of them will be the best. Young, is sure of being chosen. The best will be retained.

The boy who has the best qualifications, Tebeau refuses to talk on the subject, so he did discuss it, he too could not do any better than guess and speculate.

McGraw is coming to St. Louis. They all hoped for him to manage New York, Philadelphia, Boston, all of which teams appear to want managers. He would think that he would play for any one but himself.

In an interview printed to-day, he says he will not leave the city for the money, but does not mention St. Louis or any other place.

I thought that, during the two weeks he stay in Baltimore, Mr. Robinson, who had made things all right, and that he will report in a few days. The St. Louis players cannot understand why Brooklyn did not grab McGraw for third base, but the mutual aversion which exists between him and Manager Hanlon explains this incon-

gruity to some extent. They recall that Tim Hanlon could have had McGraw when he quit the Indians, but he did not. In fact, he says that Hanlon asked him to accept McGraw, and that he refused to do so when he found McGraw was inclined to playing in St. Louis at the time.

McGraw's Greatness.
This shows that Hanlon does not like McGraw, but perhaps the other players white together with the Baltimore team are common spectators of discussion around the circuit. McGraw is adverse to playing in the circuit, and the players are bound. Anyhow, it matters not why or how he comes, so as he does come.

It is the way it makes hard for Robinson to get McGraw.

McGraw is the best man at the bat in the circuit, and there is no better pitcher or batter, but no such men worry a pitcher and opposing team. He has a perfect eye for balls and strikes, a wonderful faculty for taking and striking, a wonderful touch in such manner that the umpire cannot call him down. Instead of waiting for them and hitting later, as other men who are not so good, he gets the ball high on the bat handle. He can hit almost as well as Buckett, and hits to all fields. He is, while managing Baltimore, the best ever. Both his teams drivers of managing a parishion team did not keep his hitting down.

He is a very fine player, and one of the greatest of latter-day base players. He has the world beaten on a double basis, with the game, running and runs with a better, or perfectly equal, and a better baseball man is of average strength. He is strong on burns, a very good thing, and likes to find a hole, covering a lot of ground to get there.

McGraw's Vorous Energy.

But above all his playing qualities is his great driving force, the irresistible vitality with which he carries his team along, dominating the game, feeding to his followers. His tremendous vital strength makes every man on the team a member of his band. He has his heart set upon the tenth place or worse, he took them up and carried them along in front all year. Then he is a leader, a leader who can give off with his playing. His skill in playing too well, he was out of the game.

McGraw has been spoken of as a ready-made manager, but this is not so far from the fact. He is a born leader, a natural young man of some 37 years. He is quick to judge, and is naturally gifted with a good head, and is a good manager. His baseball judgment and insight are so keen, his desire to win so strong, that he will often give a lead impractical in view of the circumstances. His violence is not premeditated or designed to intimidate the impure. He is a real lion against which the cubs shrink from the fact. He is a born leader, a natural young man of some 37 years. He is quick to judge, and is naturally gifted with a good head, and is a good manager. His baseball judgment and insight are so keen, his desire to win so strong, that he will often give a lead impractical in view of the circumstances. His violence is not premeditated or designed to intimidate the impure. He is a real lion against which the cubs shrink from the fact. 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